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AUGUST 15th, 1974, ISSUE No. 31



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the Bluefin**

**Wreck Fishing
for
Doormat Fluke**

**A Day With A
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Natural Baits in the Surf

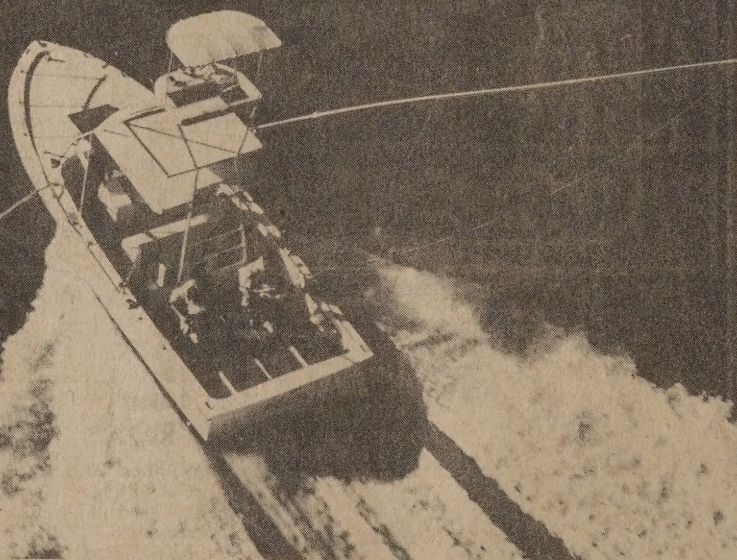
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THE ONLY WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Volume 9, Number 31

August 15th, 1974

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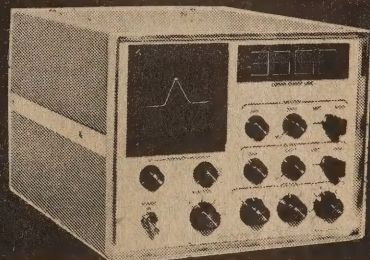
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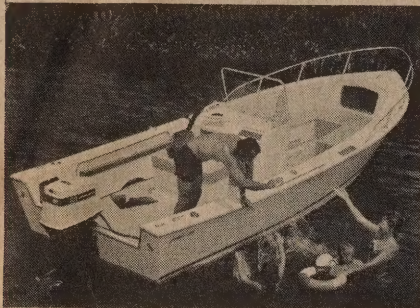
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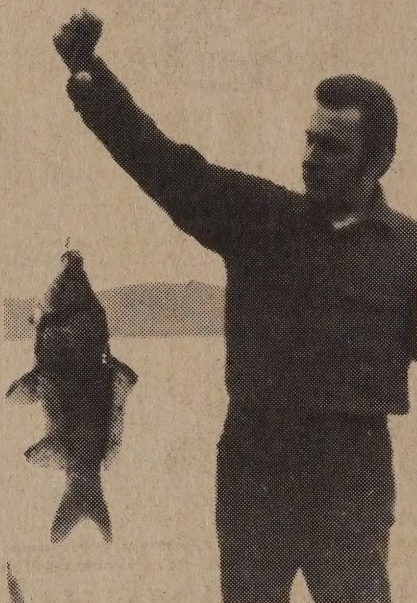
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Fishing in the Hudson River

by Nick Angelilli



My story starts on April 28, 1974. While working at my job, my friend, Bob, casually asked how I had done fishing that weekend. I told him I had caught some flounders, and was pretty satisfied. He asked how would I like to get some really big fish that gave a good fight. I said, "Where, at Montauk Point?"

He told me he fishes in the Hudson River, up around Ossining, New York. I was stunned! I replied, "The Hudson River? What do you expect to catch up there, galoshes?" He told me to meet him on Sunday and I'd see. So we drove

up the New York State Thruway the following Sunday to Ossining.

When we got there, I couldn't believe my eyes. This was one beautiful spot for fishing! I rigged my rod with small flounder hooks and blood worms, and cast out. Within the first half-hour, we caught over 20 perch. Then Bob said, "Let's switch over to 4/0 hooks and try for some big fish."

About ten minutes later my friend got a very hard hit. He started reeling in and in a few minutes, we were both gaping at a beautiful 21 lb. striped bass at the other end of his line. We continued fishing for another hour. Again, all of a sudden, my rod was hit hard; so hard I thought I had hooked the Loch Ness monster. As the fish finally came to shore, I was really surprised to see a 13 pound carp.

I had to admit to my friend that I had never had such an exciting and rewarding day fishing, and never expected anything like it from the Hudson River. He told me the best time to fish the Hudson is in April and May, and that after that the striped bass head out. Bob and I made many return trips to this area, and enjoyed extremely good fishing.

My friend Bob died recently and I would like to dedicate this article to him.

Thanks to the Long Island Fisherman for helping me really enjoy the great sport of fishing.

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TUNA PROBLEM

The relative abundance of school tuna early this summer shouldn't deceive anglers into thinking that this threatened species is making a big comeback. Most of the fish are barely a year old and the seiners are right behind them "making hay while the sun shines"! However, we've also noted that many sport fishermen have not been doing much to alleviate the critical situation with which the bluefin tuna is faced. Reports of large catches of small tuna are starting to filter in and it appears that some anglers are not showing any concern for conservation.

Though the total sport fishing catch of school tuna is probably only a tiny fraction of what the seiners take, it's most important that sport fishermen set a good example in order to keep pressure on the federal government to create regulations designed to save the species. While there is certainly no harm in taking a few tuna, large catches should be discouraged and any additional fish tagged.

Tags are available at no charge from Frank Mather at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Woods Hole, Massachusetts and can even be picked up directly through some tackle shops, such as Montauk Marine Basin. These tags are inserted by means of a tagging stick. American Littoral Society tags are also quite suitable for football size tuna which can be handled inside the boat. These are available at five for \$1.00 from the American Littoral Society, P.O. Box 117, Sandy Hook, New Jersey.

Frank Mather's findings about the decline of the bluefin tuna were widely disseminated to the public last winter. Mather maintains that the species could become virtually extinct after the present class of giants is depleted if the overfishing of the school tuna isn't stopped. The initial response from sportsmen was outstanding. The International Game Fish Association urged sportsmen to tag their giant tuna, while the USATT and Sheepshead Bay Tuna Club Tournaments were cancelled. Rules of some other tournaments were changed to provide for the scoring of fish that were tagged.

The National Coalition for Marine Conservation and the Sport Fishing Institute are pressuring the federal government to impose strict regulations on both sport and commercial fisheries which will take the pressure off the tuna fishery; but, in order to achieve success, they need the sportsmen's help. It was the tagging by sportsmen that led to most of Mather's startling information and it's up to the sportsmen to continue this effort to save a species that most rate as the greatest fighter of them all!

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Requiem for the Bluefin

by Al Ristori

Will Washington fiddle while the bluefin tuna disappears? Despite some hopeful signs last fall, it appears that the National Marine Fisheries Service is going to content itself with rhetoric rather than action. Yet, within a few years, there may be no action which can be taken to save the greatest of American gamefish!

Those of you who read the several giant tuna articles I prepared for "Long Island Fisherman" last year are probably aware of the basic problem. For new readers, a brief summary is in order. Basically, we're faced with a tuna population consisting almost entirely of very large and very small fish. Prior to the early sixties, tuna were underexploited and abundant in all size classes. Then a substantial seine fishery started which has, each year since, harvested most of the small and medium tuna available. Therefore, we now have fine giant tuna fishing but catches of smaller fish are few and scattered.

The problem isn't ours alone. The rapid improvement in fisheries technology has also spelled disaster for the bluefin in Europe. Only 20 years ago there were very important fisheries for giant tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean. Today they have either declined sharply or totally disappeared. The total catch of giants in the northeastern Atlantic has dropped from about 150,000 fish in the 50's to just 1,500 in 1972! The German fishery take used to be over 1000 tons annually. Today it is defunct! The Portuguese traps, which have yielded over 20,000 giants in some recent years, produced only one or two fish in 1971 and 1972, and were not set in 1973!



Don Merten of Montauk is pulled out of the chair by the power of a Stellwagen Bank giant.

The Mediterranean fishery stood up longer, but is now declining rapidly. A trap in Tunisia, which averaged about 8,000 fish per year for a hundred years (1863-1963), took only 100 in 1972. There, just as here, as the fish get larger their numbers decrease and there is virtually nothing behind them to carry on the propagation of the species. A single catch from a trap in Sicily last May consisted of 111 tuna with an average weight of 1,040 pounds! Obviously, the remaining spawning population there is reaching the end of its life cycle. Yet the Europeans seem to care little about the disappearance of their tuna. After all, there are other shores to be raided—a fact with which Americans have become only too familiar during the past decade!

On our side of the Atlantic we appear to have a few years left in which to salvage the fishery. Not that the decline hasn't already been severe. The bluefin is the most valuable of fish to the Japanese and it would hardly seem reasonable to suppose that they wouldn't pull out all stops to catch them. Yet their longline catch rate in fish per 1,000 hooks fell from a peak of 1.42 in 1963 to 0.02 in 1970!

The decline in the sportfishing catch of school tuna is brutally evident to anyone who fished them prior to the early 60's. The reason is documented by Frank Mather in the tagging program he's been carrying on through Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution since the 50's. Before seining started there were practically no returns. In recent years, however, the return rate has been over 30% and as high as 40%. This is incredible when one considers that a heavily-fished inshore species, such as the striped bass, would normally produce only a 10% return!

Normally, the population of a long-lived species (such as tuna and striped bass) would be sustained by medium size fish. The young fish aren't sexually mature for a few years (3-4 in the case of tuna) and the very old fish often don't have viable spawn. Indeed, they may not even spawn every year. Yet, we now have a tuna population faced with dependence for its existence on giant fish which must be nearing the end of their reproductive lives. If there are any significant schools of medium tuna left, they are doing a pretty good job of hiding their presence. At least in sportfishing circles, there were few reports of fish larger than 20 lb. (1 year) or smaller than 500 lb. (13 years). Even the 500-600 pounders weren't too abundant as it is fish of 14 years of age or more that are now carrying the species. A comparison of the last two Cape Ann Tuna Club Tournaments at Gloucester, Massachusetts illustrates both that point and the now rapid decline in northwestern Atlantic giant tuna stocks. In 1972 the tournament produced an incredible 148 bluefin by 49 boats (most not fishing every day) in four days. Last year the catch dropped to just 23 bluefin by 54 boats. Yet, the average weight increased from 567 lbs. to 645 lbs.!

If the exploitation of giant tuna continued only at its historically low rate we'd still have a few years to save the species. But the discovery of large concentrations of giant tuna at Stellwagen Bank and Ipswich Bay, Massachusetts during the past few years has resulted in a tremendous increase of pressure on the remaining giants. Unlike the small fish, giants travel in small, loose groups and aren't normally subject to mass slaughter techniques. However, the depredations of the

foreign fleets off our coast during the past decade has resulted in a great reduction (95% in the case of herring) in the fodder fish upon which tuna rely. This may account for their current tendency to gather and stay in the Massachusetts Bay area where the free handouts from chummers often amount to over 30,000 pounds per day!

Even the increasing sportfishing pressure might not have seriously threatened the giant tuna population were it not for the sudden change in their value. Until last summer giant tuna were worth only pennies a pound. At some ports, such as Montauk, they weren't even accorded that value—anglers often had to pay someone to take the hulk away, whether to market or simply back to sea. Then, suddenly, the Japanese were competing furiously for every giant and paying prices that reached \$1.50 per pound (headed and gutted) with which to supply a seemingly insatiable home market willing to pay over six dollars a pound! Whereas each tuna had been worth only "bait money", now the average fish would dress out to at least \$500! As a result, every commercial fisherman with nothing better to do equipped himself with handlines and headed to Stellwagen Bank or Ipswich Bay. September weekdays soon came to look more like summer weekends!

I haven't seen any statistics about the giant tuna catch last year, but I wouldn't be surprised if they exceed that of 1972. The pressure did increase many times to get those fish and the catch per unit effort had to drop sharply—a sure sign that the fish are rapidly declining. This is no surprise since we know that there is virtually no recruitment to the stock of giant tuna. The decrease is particularly noticeable to someone like myself who's been fishing this area for the last three years. We used to be able to chum groups of tuna to the surface: I never had even a single fish in the slick this year! Fathometer tapes tell the story of abundance. In 1971 and 1972 the tapes showed dozens of fish below us most of the time; last year they were usually blank, with just an occasional single or double coming through.

It's quite obvious that we're rapidly running through our remaining stock of giant tuna and, with no medium fish to replace them, the fishing can't last too much longer. If that was all there was to it, the situation wouldn't be quite as serious, but the giants are breeding stock and their demise may virtually doom the species. Frank Mather has put the facts on the table and some people are starting to listen.

On October 11, 1973, I attended a meeting at the Commerce Department in Washington at which government, sportfishing and tuna industry leaders got together to discuss the problem and try to come up with a solution. Everyone seemed to be convinced by Mather's presentation except the west coast biologists and tuna company executives. Nevertheless, an understanding was arrived at whereby a compromise on conserving tuna would be worked out between sportsmen and commercials and Frank Mather would present his plea for conservation to the International Commission For The Conservation Of Atlantic Tunas.

That meeting showed promise of heralding the dawn of a new era in the National Marine Fisheries Service—but we're still waiting for the sun to come up! Nothing has been done about introducing any conservation measures for this year's season and the government officials profess a lack of power to impose any regulations which would save the fish. In view of the pervasive influence that the Federal Government seems to have on every aspect of our lives, it seems strange indeed that the salvation of our greatest gamefish is beyond its reach.

The I.C.C.A.T. meeting in Paris was just as great a disappointment. Frank Mather was allowed to make his presentation, but was undercut by the west coast biologist in



School tuna such as this one are almost an unusual catch for sportsmen these days.

charge of tuna research. At the October 11 meeting, that biologist, Brian Rothschild, literally spoke for the commercial interests and it wasn't until after the meeting that I realized that he works for the government. Of course the difference between the government and the big tuna companies has always been a little indistinct, as anyone familiar with the reason we don't have a 200 mile limit can testify. Now with that in mind, guess who leads our delegation to this conference? Who else—a tuna company official! That's like sending Joe Bananas to represent the government at an international meeting on drug control!

If the government hasn't accomplished anything thus far, at least there are some organizations trying to save the tuna. Dick Stroud, Executive Vice-President, Sport Fishing Institute, has proposed that no tuna less than five or more than 85 pounds be taken by either commercial or sport fishing until the stocks recover. He's been in contact with officials at the National Marine Fisheries Service on a continuing basis and isn't going to let them forget the tuna. The new S.W.I. F.T. Committee formed by "Field & Stream" made this issue (along with the 200 mile limit) one of its major goals. They call for a limit to the seine catch of 1,000 tons annually and a prohibition against killing any tuna less than 14 pounds. Fishing for giant tuna would be restricted to rod and reel and anglers limited to one fish per day.

The newly formed National Coalition for Marine Conservation wants a bilateral agreement with Canada, a request from the State Department that the Japanese stop buying bluefin tuna in the U.S., and implementation of a commercial fishing moratorium. Personally, I feel that we're beating around the bush if we pretend that the present pro-

(Continued on page 9.)

Wreck Fishing for Doormat Fluke by Matt Ahern

Many fishermen agree one of the most interesting facts about fluke is that the biggest one has yet to be caught. The experienced fluke fisherman knows his next one can very well be a record breaker. These relatives of the halibut reach a noble size; the largest caught weighed 26 pounds and was taken commercially, making this quite a mark at which to shoot.

Big fluke are caught each year, but to get large doormats with any degree of certainty, the veteran fluke fisherman knows late summer and early fall are most favorable. And he also knows these large fluke can be found around many of Long Island's offshore wrecks at that time of year with more success than in shallow bays and other protected areas.

With the great come-back fluke have been making, the opportunity for taking an outsize fluke is certainly there for the fisherman who concentrates on capturing these doormats. Last summer, more fourteen-to sixteen-pounders were taken than in the past several years put together, and many of them were taken around offshore wrecks in late August and early September.

When fluke first arrive in late spring, they seldom linger around wrecks. This is probably because the ocean water is still carrying some of winter's chill, causing them to hurry by as they seek warmer bay waters. This is probably why few fluke are caught off ocean beaches before July.

Wreck fishermen do catch an occasional fluke while porgy fishing during July and early August, but it isn't until late summer, when offshore waters really become warm, that doormat fluke prowl the wrecks in search of food.

The fluke taken on these wrecks can be very hefty, indeed. A ten-pounder doesn't often rate much more than a glance from the experienced wreck fisherman, but this doesn't mean every fish taken will be this size. Quite to the contrary, most wreck-caught fluke will be from three to five pounds, but the big fish are there and available; you can expect to get your share of them.

To illustrate what is meant, I recall a wreck we used to fish so 20 years back. This wreck was offshore of Seabright, New Jersey, no more than a mile from shore in about thirty feet of water. What its name was, and how large it was, I never knew. The only man to my knowledge that knew its exact location was our captain, an old Swedish skipper with a half-century's wreck fishing experience behind him.

Because this wreck produced such large fluke, its location was kept in deepest secrecy. It was never fished except on hazy or foggy days, thus preventing anyone on board taking their own ranges to reveal its location. This was back in the late twenties, years before electronic aids, when all one had to work with were two eyes, a compass, and an accurate ship's clock.

When early September rolled around, and weather conditions were favorable, we would spend as much as a week fishing this wreck. Daily we returned to load up on the big doormats this wreck harbored. The largest fluke I ever saw came from this wreck; it weighed nineteen pounds! Sorry to say, I didn't catch it, but many ten-to fifteen-pounders were taken daily. It was the accepted thing.

To attempt to catch fluke this size means sturdy tackle must be put to use. It isn't necessary to employ codfish gear, but you'll need something heavier than the spinning rods you've been using in the bay. In fact, forget the spinning tackle entirely. Stick with a medium-weight conventional rod

and a matching reel capable of holding a hundred yards of 40 pound test monofilament.

Rigging is no problem, as it's the same as for the smaller bay fluke, but everything is on a larger scale. Your hook should be a 5/0 to 6/0 Kirby or Carlisle. These hooks are long-shanked, and if you sink one of them into an outsize doormat, you'll be glad you used it. The teeth in that enormous mouth are wicked looking; in fact—they're downright scary!

Your leader should be of 40 pound leader material, and from three to four feet long. The longer one is preferred. I don't know why the extra foot or so should make such a difference with these large fluke, but it does. I believe the extra length tends to lend more action to the bait's presentation.

Leader material is purchased in lengths approximately four feet long, and you should use the full length for each leader. Incidentally, leader material is made stiff to prevent curling around the line, so don't substitute the monofilament from your reel. It won't properly do the job and is bound to have you gnashing your teeth in frustration.

If you have difficulty finding the size you want, write to Midland Tackle Co., 66 Route 17, Sloatsburg, New York, 10974, and ask for their catalog listing various weights of leader material.

The use of a three-way swivel is left to you. It isn't necessary, but if you decide to use one it should be at least a 4/0 in size. Many fishermen tie the leader directly to the line after first forming a two-inch loop about three inches up from the sinker.

Sinker weight will vary, depending on depth of water and strength of tide. When drifting along the edges of a wreck, a bank sinker from eight to ten ounces, sometimes more, should be used. If at anchor over a wreck, a five or six ounce lead will usually be found to prove satisfactory.

The use of correct sinker weight can be a problem as many times conditions change not only from day to day, but from hour to hour. It is best to carry a supply of various weights.

Wreck fishing often takes a toll of terminal tackle, especially wrecks like the Iberia off Long Beach. This is no problem on a party boat since extra tackle can be purchased on board, but if you plan fishing from a private boat, be sure to carry extra riggings.

A wide, long-handled net is a must. Doormats are not only broad, but quite tricky when brought to the surface. When netting the fish, extreme care should be the watchword. Be sure to hold the net quietly before the fish and lead him into it.

The cardinal rule is to never approach a hooked fish with a net, and never, never attempt to net one from behind. To do so assures a lost fish. This rule applies to any fish, anywhere, but particularly to fluke, large or small. Years ago we never netted big fluke; we always used a gaff.

Fluke love to prowl around wrecks in their search for food, these places being havens for small fish. If it swims, they'll go for it, but there are baits for which a definite preference is shown. One of these is a strip from the smooth dogfish.

This summertime dogfish is usually smaller than the ones caught in winter. They also lack those flesh-puncturing spines, making them easier to handle. Not only does this bait produce excellent results, but its emery-like hide makes it

difficult for any fish to grab it and run.

To prepare, slice off both sides of the fish and use strips about six inches long. Run the hook once through the widest part and let it trail in the tide. You should impart action by jiggling the bait continuously.

When you have a pick-up, allow a little slack and let the fluke work on it. He'll soon get it down and take off with a powerful flick of his tail. It isn't necessary to hook the fish, he'll have done that for you.

The next choice of bait is a slice of a fair-sized bergall. Don't scale. It is always a good idea to leave the scales on any fish intended for bait; not only will it stay on the hook longer, but it has a more natural appearance and feel.

Strips of squid, sea robin bellies, the white belly strips of smaller fluke, and large, live killies are all good bait. Just remember to use big baits for these outside fluke and you won't go wrong. The bait may appear large to you, but not to a fluke.

There are many local wrecks that harbor fluke in late summer. The Stone Barge, Steel Wreck, Coal Wreck, C.O.D. Wreck, and the aforementioned Iberia Wreck are all available from Jones Inlet. These are but a few known for their excellent fluke possibilities.

The best way to fish these wrecks is to drift around the outside and along the edges. Fluke lie there waiting an opportunity to pounce upon some luckless victim venturing too far from shelter.

If anchored over the wreck, the best method is to cast out as far as possible and work the bait back. If casting is impractical, and you must fish straight up and down, remember to put plenty of action in your bait by continuously jiggling the rod.

All these methods work well, and you may be sure they'll

catch fluke for you. So when late summer is at hand, go wreck fishing for those tackle-bending doormats.

There's no other fluke fishing quite like it!



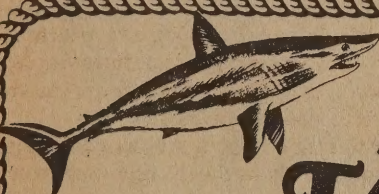
REQUIEM FOR THE BLUEFIN (Continued from page 7.)

blem has been caused by anything other than unrestrained seining of school tuna. No matter how badly their schools are decimated, small tuna still tend to aggregate and thereby provide the seiners, assisted by airplanes, another shot at cleaning them out.

Until the slaughter of the small tuna is stopped and large spawning stocks once again swim off our coast, some painful steps must be taken to relieve the pressure on the giants. Restricting the fishing to rod and reel will help (this was done last year in Prince Edward Island, Canada) but, with the incentive of \$1.50 a pound, this isn't likely to take enough pressure off the giants. The key to the problem is getting the price back down to a point where selling tuna won't be profitable. This can be accomplished either by banning their export or imposing a confiscatory tax on their sale, with the resulting funds used to finance the greatly needed increase in tuna research.

One thing that all the sport groups agree on 100% is that the bluefin tuna program must be disassociated from its present west coast control. The biologists there literally serve the industry and couldn't care less about the bluefin. If you, too, are concerned about this clear and present danger to the most powerful of all fish, get your pen in hand and do something about it! Write to your congressmen and also to Mr.

Robert Schoning, Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, 3300 Whitehaven Parkway, Washington, D.C. 20240. Do it now!



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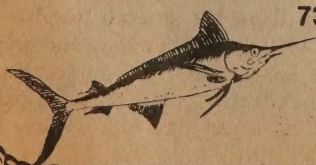
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A Day With A Commercial Trawler

by John Fennimore

My day began with a buzz of the alarm clock promptly at four a.m.: I was due at the dock at 4:30. The season was late winter and a stagnant cold hung in the black abyss of morning. When I arrived at the dock the gates were closed and the mad barking of guard dogs seemed to echo across the water.

A shadowy figure came to the gate, yelled at the dogs, then let me in. This fellow is in charge of home base and, as a result, he performs a variety of jobs. He radios information to the trawler on weather conditions and also helps in selling and boxing the fish. But his main job is to act as a watchman over the boat and its equipment.

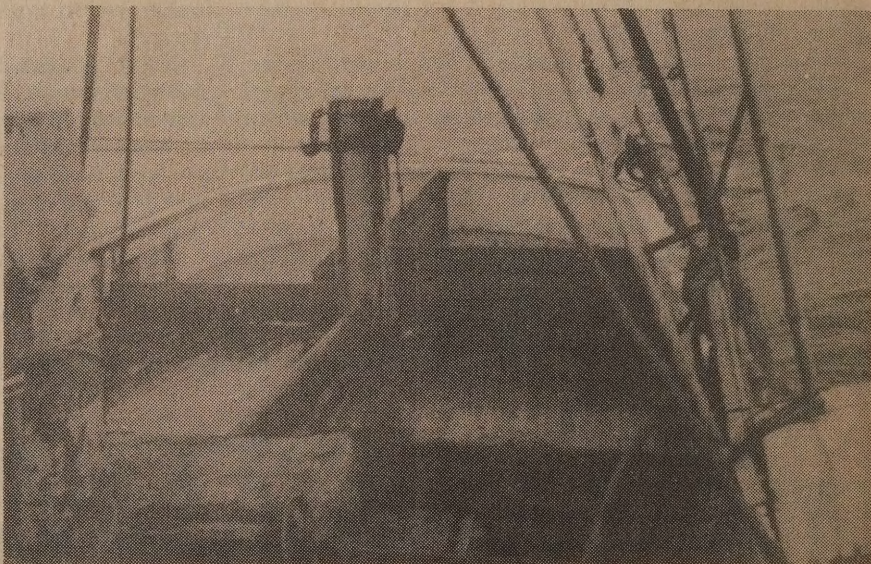
Then the two mates arrived. One was an old robust man who had been in the business for many years, the other an immigrant who had difficulty speaking English. Then, seemingly out of nowhere, the captain walked in. He had been a captain for 30 years on everything from a tramp steamer to his present fishing boat. We boarded the boat and bade farewell to the baseman.

We moved out in total darkness; the radar beacon was turned on. Both shorelines could be seen clearly on the screen. Even the buoys were visible on the radar screen. We were then able to navigate in the middle of the channel.

The channel led us to the inlet where navigation became more complex. The buoys became further apart and the shoreline was visible only on the outer edges of the screen. The loran was then switched on, and a spotlight was used to light up the buoys. The compass light could also be seen from where I was sitting. Navigation became a mixture of spotlight, compass, loran and radar. Without these instruments it would have been impossible to navigate safely in the inky blackness of this early morn.



The day of a commercial fisherman begins.



First trawl for fish; apprehension is in the air.



Knee deep in fish

Two hours later the sun began to creep out between the clouds. We were over ten miles off the Jersey shore, in the area known as the Mud Hole. The depth recorder informed us that we were in 30 fathoms of water, but that was all. No fish could be seen on the screen. After twenty minutes the first signs of life appeared via the display. Then, as quickly as they came, they disappeared. I could see the despair in the captain's face. He turned, and ordered the net down.

The mates worked quickly, efficiently, almost mechanically in the cold morning air. I decided it was best to stay out of the way. The net hit the water, followed by the rattling of the chain leader. Then two huge doors (which separate the net when trawling) crashed into the water, and cabling began to peel off the winch. The engine speed was increased and the boat began to move forward as the net headed to the bottom. Still no signs of fish on the recorder. After about a half hour of trawling, the boat slowed. There is no way of telling what is in the net, if anything.

The boat still moving forward, the net was hauled in from the depths. About twenty yards off the stern, the net surfaced due to the bloated bellies of the fish. Birds appeared out of nowhere. Diving, chasing and screeching, they went for the fish that struggled out of the net. The boat still moved forward in order to keep the fish in the pocket at the end of the net.

The winch brought the net to the side of the boat, and a combination of pulley and windlass hoisted the haul of fish aboard. The fish hung suspended in the air till a cord at the bottom of the pocket was pulled away, making a wide seam in the net. Suddenly, fish were pouring all over the deck.

The hard work began. Sorting fish by type, size and abundance lasted for hours. For every fish we kept, it seemed that fifty went over the side. The net also had to be cleaned of trapped fish. This was extremely difficult because the netting used was only as wide as the netting found on a fisherman's landing or crabbing net.

Scales became plastered all over my body. The smell of fish filled the air as we worked. The deck was then washed down, and the trawling ritual started again.

We make two more hauls, the last being the least successful, and then headed back home. There was a variety of fish caught, the largest amount being

(Continued on page 13.)

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Old Pirate Fish Stew by Don Julio Siebert

I never saw a fisherman who couldn't do some pretty fancy casting around a hospitable kitchen or with an open camp fire under scented pines. Who will ever forget cooking a string of trout with thin slices of salt pork over the open fire and then eating these lovelies with crisp chips of the pork? Did you ever fry skinned blowfish this way? Well, there is a tip fisherman: to me they beat quail on toast under glass, any day.

From now on please save your codfish heads or scrounge some from your pals. They are the greatest for fish stews, and the cats need no longer dig them from out the rose beds or under the grape vines.

In Puerto Rico no fish for stew beats the red snapper or dolphin. Here on Long Island we use that which we catch. But now—on to cooking.

This Pirate Stew appears all over the world wherever there are fishermen with excess fish and the tomato. Often they use fish that we would term junk, but which they know will add flavor and substance to the stew.

With us, best results come from skinned chunks of fish like cod, bass, turbot, blacks, halibut, haddock, flounder and perhaps one eel.

Codfish heads are perfect. Should you use the heads, first remove the cheeks and tongues, then brown them gently in butter as a treat for your *bonne femme* or love. In the future you might just fish for the heads. Now let's start.

THE FISH

Ingredients

2 lbs. or more of white-skinned, non-oily fish in chunks on the bone. (We will not use the fish, just the broth, and please use no blues, mackerel or tuna.)
2-3 medium lobsters, cut up and cracked and cleaned.
1 small can of oysters, coarsely chopped, or 1 dozen large shrimps, whole in shell with the sand vein carefully cut out.
24 cherry stone clams, whole, with shells well-scrubbed.

THE STOCK

2 qts. of broth or more from the simmered fish, strained free of bones or

carcass.

2 cups of clam broth or 1 bottle of broth.

1 large jar or can of marinara sauce.

1 qt. or one large can of whole tomatoes chopped.

1 qt. dry white or rose wine—for the stew, this time. Don't snitch.

SOLIDS AND SPICE

1 cup Mazola oil or olive oil.

¼ lb. butter.

1 bunch green scallions, chopped greens and all.

1 lb. onions, chopped.

3 stalks celery, chopped.

1 green and 1 red pepper, chopped. (If no red pepper is available, use a small can of pimentos, chopped)

3 garlic buds, chopped.

SEASONINGS

Herbs:

1 large bay leaf.

¼ teaspoon thyme.

¼ teaspoon dried basil or branch of the fresh herb.

¼ teaspoon crushed red hot pepper or

½ teaspoon **hot pepper sauce**.

1 tablespoon Chinese oyster sauce or, if unavailable, one teaspoon anchovy paste. (No salt until you taste the finished stew.)

I ask you please try to get the Chinese oyster sauce in an Oriental Store. This is the superb touch and can later be used in all soups and stews, and even rubbed on a roasting bird, pork, beef or lamb.

THE WORK

Heat the oil and butter in a large stew pot and cook the onions, celery and peppers with all the herbs until the vegetables are wilted and yellow. Keep your oar stirring the pot, do not burn. Keep aside to await fish broth. Now add the clam broth and 2-3 qts. of water to make a cover for your fish in a separate pot.

Cook gently for 1 hour until the fish flakes. Then remove the fish and separate the meat from the bones. We will not use the fish meat in the stew, but keep it for a fish salad or for fish cakes.

When this is done, carefully strain the fish broth and add it to the vegetables with the marinara sauce, tomatoes, the bottle of dry wine and all the seasonings, plus ½ teaspoon of black pepper. Cook in the covered stew pot until vegetables are tender, or about 1 to 2 hours.

Now add the chopped oysters or the

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whole shrimps in shells, the cut-up lobsters and the whole scrubbed clams. Cook gently until the clam shells are open.

Cover the pot during the cooking to retain the flavors.

Finally, thicken the stew lightly with three teaspoons of corn starch in a half cup of water and check for salt. Do not thicken too much; keep it like cream.

Serve with lots of garlic bread and plenty of cool dry white or rose wine.

GARLIC BREAD

Rub some loaves of round or long Italian bread with cloves of garlic to wear out the cloves. Then cut the bread into chunks, but not all the way through the loaves, from the top down. Separate the slices or chunks gently in order to push a good-sized pat of butter between them. Put the bread to heat on metal trays at 350-400 degrees until the bread is sizzling and crackling hot. Make plenty to dunk into the stew.

Pirate Fish Stew is best when served in large, generous Spanish or Italian bowls and, of course, with big glasses of chilled wine and piles of crackling garlic bread to dip into the rich broth. My toast to you is from old Spain:

*"Salud, pesetas, y amor
y tiempo para gozarlos."*

(Health, money, and love
and plenty time to enjoy them.)

A LAST WARNING

Here is some advice: I suggest you tape the doors and windows of the house, for should that fragrance of the bubbling Ambrosia get going among the neighbors, I then fear for you, your family and friends. You won't be able to stop the advance to your doors.

EATING

When the stew is ready, take the oars out of the pot and go in with your largest dipper for advance sampling. Then call for help to lick the pot clean.

Be sure to dip lots of garlic bread in the stew and have the wine ready when well-chilled.

A huge green salad of lettuce, chicory or endive with good Italian dressing is almost a must to complete the dinner. We also have a fruit dessert in readiness.

The excess stew keeps well in the refrigerator and is good hot or cold. I doubt you will have any left.

Now for the cooked meat of the fish.

We use this creamed or in a salad with mayonnaise, celery, onion, capers, some chopped pineapple and or your own invention. The cooked meat

also makes great fishcakes.

Bon Apetit.

A Day With A Commercial Trawler

(Continued from page 11.)

whiting. These fish weighed from a few ounces to five pounds, and all were kept. The second greatest in numbers were the ling. Only those fish in the 2-2½ pound range and up were kept. The smaller fish were dumped, and the seagulls feasted on them. This I thought was wasteful, and I could not understand why a fish one quarter-pound lighter was unsellable. There were plenty of conger eels which were also dumped.

A few dozen yellowtail flounders showed up, along with herring, mackerel and bunker, all of which were kept. A few blue claw crabs and a bushel of rock crabs found their way on board. I have eaten only blue claws, but I heard there is a good market for rock crabs. Goosefish (anglers) were plentiful, along with skates, and were kept and later sold at the dock.

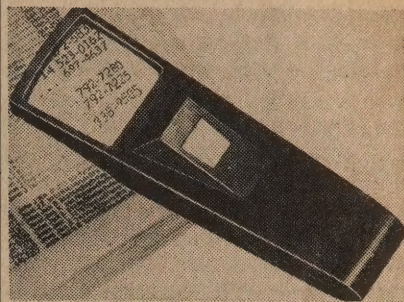
These facts bewildered me. Why dump so many ling, yet keep skates? Here is the problem: This boat was fishing in water 180-200 feet deep. Fish at this depth have been exposed to great pressures and, therefore, have a great amount of saturated gasses in their tissues, along with compressed air in their lungs. These fish are dragged up from a great depth, and at a great speed. The fish get the bends and air embolisms. Their bellies are bloated, and they struggle helplessly on the surface. Chances for their survival are just about zero. This indicates that something must be done to protect young fish.

This was the only thing I felt was wrong. Overall, the fishermen impressed me: hard-working, independent and free are only a few inadequate words a person could use in describing such a breed of men.

Author's Note: I count myself among those who call themselves sportsmen. I therefore hate any waste of our natural resources, especially those that are alive. The commercial fishermen are forced by the present economic situation to do things that I could see that they would prefer not to.

This brings something else to mind. Our fishing fleets are extremely small, and must conform to many non-profitable regulations. The foreign fishing fleets, on the other hand, are incredibly large, merciless, have little regulation, and mock the few they have. To protect our living resources, a 200 mile fishing zone is imperative.

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Using Natural Baits in the Surf

by Vlad Evanoff

We covered the different kinds of natural baits and the rigs used in surf fishing in previous articles. Now I would like to go into more detail on how to use these natural baits. Such baits will take fish during the entire season in the surf, but are particularly effective at this time of year.

When using sandworms or bloodworms for striped bass, don't be too stingy with your bait or use dead worms when you have live ones. For stripers or big weakfish, hook the sandworm just once through the head. Run the point of the hook into the sandworm's mouth and then out about an inch below the head. If you are using bloodworms for bass, hook them once through the middle and put two or three on the hook. In this way the bloodworms live longer and wriggle more to help attract fish.

Of course, if you are fishing for blackfish, porgies, kingfish or flounders in the surf, you have to use smaller pieces of worm. Cut a worm into three or four sections—depending on its size and length.

Big skimmer clams often make good bait for striped bass, and the whole meat of a clam can be used on a big hook for them. Smaller pieces and strips of clam can be used for porgies, blackfish and sea flounders.

Years ago, when striped bass fishing

slowed down in the surf for many anglers, especially those using lures, a few surf experts would turn up with fish almost every time they went out, even in July and August. Later we found they were using calico or lady crabs to make their catches. These anglers would spend half a day or more raking out the crabs around jetties, along the beaches and piles in inlets. They especially liked the soft-shell and shedder calicos for bait, but, if these were hard to obtain, they used the small, half-dollar-sized crabs even if their shells were hard.

A soft-shell calico can be used as is, but with a shedder or peeler crab you first have to remove the hard shell and use the soft body underneath. Both the soft and shedder crabs are hard to keep on a hook, so it's a good idea to wrap some fine thread or thin rubber bands around them to keep them in place during a cast and in the wash of the surf. With the small hard-shell crabs, string anywhere up to 5 or 6 on a hook. Calicos are good when used during the daytime, but are particularly effective at night, when crabs usually come out of hiding.

I've also used sand fleas or sand bugs successfully for striped bass in the summer. String several of the bugs on your hook and leader to make a tempting bait. For kingfish or blackfish, use only one.

An entire, small squid is a good bait for striped bass. Hook it once through the tail or middle of the body, cast it out and let it lie on the bottom. When fishing Cape Cod Canal we used to look for squid being chased or driven up on shore by bass. Then we would pick up one of them and impale it on a three-hook rig we always carried, and cast it out in the current. We let it drift and sink, and if the stripers were still around they would grab it. You can also use chunks or strips of squid for weakfish, bluefish, sea bass and fluke. This is a good emergency bait to have along when you go surf fishing. You can cut up the strips and salt them down in jars and they will keep for some time.

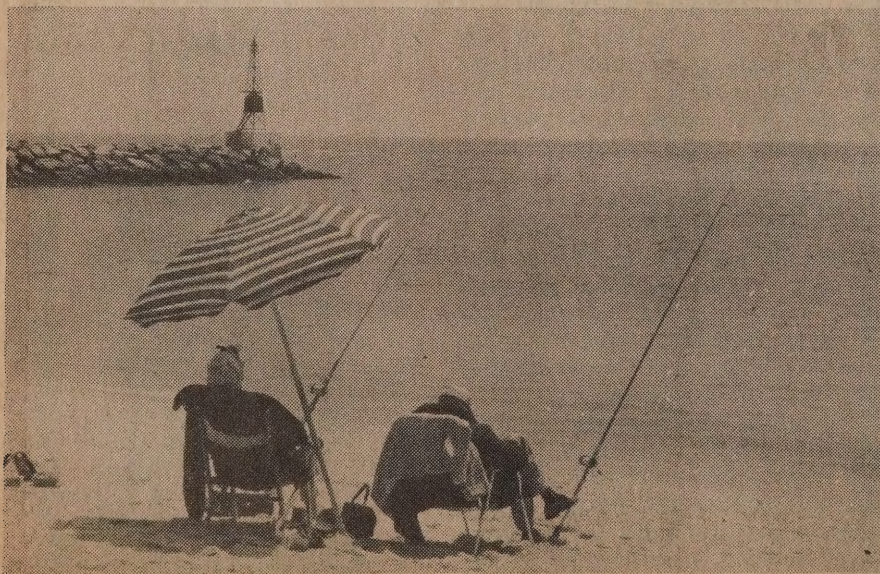
Various kinds of fish, such as mackerel, butterfish, bunker, mullet and even porgies and kingfish, can be cut up and chunks or strips can be used in surf fishing.

But no matter what kind of bait you use, you still have to fish the right spots where fish are feeding. As a general rule you'll do best if you look for sloughs or troughs in the surf or holes where there is deeper water. If there is an outer bar you can cast your bait and rig up on the bar and slowly reel it until it drops off at the inner edge. Cuts or breaks in a sand bar are also good spots to fish, since baitfish, crabs, sand bugs, clams and other marine foods get tossed around or washed out here and surf fish look for them.

You also hold bottom better in the sloughs or holes and deeper spots than on the sand bar itself, where the wave action tends to wash the sinker off or roll it around. And the bait stays on longer in the quieter water. If you are fishing from a jetty or breakwater, you can, of course, walk out a bit and cast your rig into the quieter water beyond the breakers.

But, while natural baits often attract fish by their smell or flavor, some movement of the bait is also important to help attract more fish. In fact, some anglers prefer bank or round sinkers rather than pyramids so that the bait moves with the current or wave action. When there is a strong current running parallel to the beach, you can often "walk" your bait along the bottom by moving with it as the water takes it along.

If there is no strong current or wave



This couple, bait fishing in the surf at Shinnecock Inlet, awaits the fish with the rods in sand pikes. But if the fish are biting, it is better to hold the rod.

action you can still give your bait some movement by casting it out as far as you can, then let it lie a few minutes in one spot, after which you reel it in a few feet, then let it rest again. Keep repeating this until you have the rig near the beach. Besides giving the bait action, this is a good way of locating the feeding zone of the fish. They may be way out, or just behind the breakers, or in-between. Once you find out how far out you are getting your bites, cast directly to that spot.

Too many surf anglers fishing with bait allow slack line and miss a lot of fish. Some fish may hook themselves, but usually they will steal the bait or feel the weight of the sinker and get suspicious. For the same reason, it's not a good idea to place your rod in a sand spike and wait for a bite. I like to hold the rod all the time, and keep reeling in the slack line as the waves push the rig inshore.

Setting the hook can be tricky with some fish, but usually a wait of a few seconds after the fish takes the bait is the best policy. Of course, if the fish grabs the bait and starts moving off with it fast and steady, you can come back with the rod immediately.

Always keep live bait on your hook or, if it is dead, use fresh-bait after it has been in the water a while. And be certain your hooks are needle-sharp. With most baits it helps to let the point and barb protrude rather than be buried inside the bait itself. With soft baits this isn't too important, but with the tougher, firmer baits it could mean failing to hook the fish.

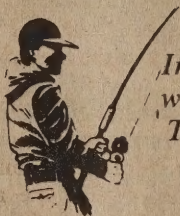


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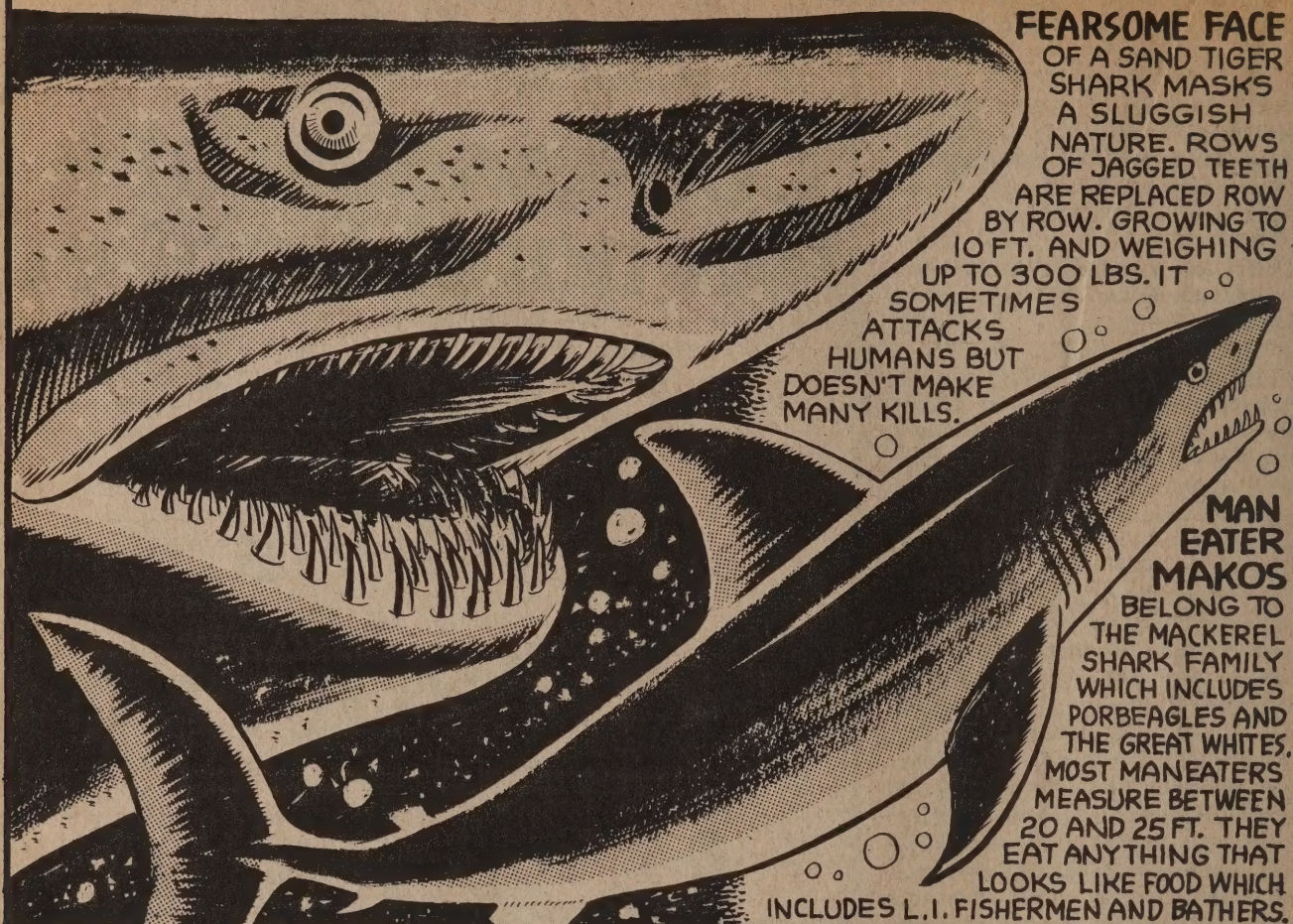
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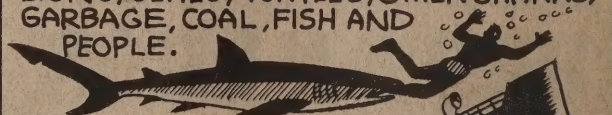
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MANEATERS ROAM THE SURF, ONE
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PEOPLE.



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SHARKS. THE NEXT MORNING
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FLOATING IN THE WATER.
CRAZED BY BLOOD IN THE
WATER, THE SHARKS WENT
ON A "FEEDING FRENZY," THE
SWIMMING MEN WERE HELPLESS.



SHARKS!
HELP!
AAAAGH.

AAGH!
MY
LEGS—

NEXT WEEK—
SOME OTHER
DANGEROUS
DENIZENS
OF THE DEEP.

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

(Fishing photos must be sharp, clear, and black-white. We cannot use color prints due to printing problems, so please do not send them. Address photos to: **FISHING REPORT**, The Long Island Fisherman, P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.)

MONTAUK

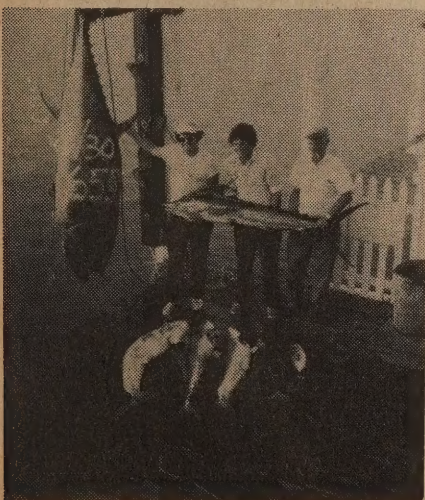
Mrs. Glas of the **Hel-Cat** said the walk-in refrigerator on the boat allows them to carry a ton of bait. This allows them a full day's bluefishing in The Race because they do not run out of bait.

Capt. Dick Vigilant of the **Triton II** has been bluefishing in The Race and Plum Gut. Both places have been very good. Six to eight pound bluefish have been taken in Plum Gut.

Very good codfishing at Coxes Ledge says Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Star**.

The **Viking Starlite** has had fantastic nighttime bluefishing. They are fishing the Cartwright Grounds just south of the point. Fluke fishing during the day has been fair.

Capt. Brad Glas of the **Helen II** reports good fluke fishing weekdays. Saturday and Sunday charters were for bluefishing in The Race where it was good on Sunday. Saturday's fishing was partly done in Plum Gut but due to the wind conditions it was only fair.



Dr. Pat Vitagliano, Dr. Lou Pastore and Joe Frizzitta hold a 65 lb. white marlin and are surrounded by a giant tuna of 655 lbs., and 4 mako sharks, approximate weights 80, 80, 125 and 125, that they took aboard the charterboat **Easy Rider** at Montauk. They also released 7 blue sharks and lost 2 more makos. Who ever heard of such offshore fishing?



John Stonitsch, E. Northport and Victor Usin, New Jersey with a wash tub full of porgies they caught on the Viking Skipper at Gardiners Island.

Hilda Tuma of **Tuma's Tackle** reports snapper blues and flounder being caught from jetties and the town dock. The snapper blues are taking sand eels while the flounders go for worms and clams. The charter boats have had excellent bluefish trolling both morning and afternoon said Mrs. Tuma. Offshore boats continue to catch tuna and mako shark with school tuna about 20 miles southeast of The Point.

John Keller at **Lake Montauk Marina** reports very good porgy fishing at Gardiners Island and The Elbow. The porgies seem to prefer clams for bait. Fluke fishing has been very good close by on the south side of The Point. Blues are being picked up while drifting for these fluke. Bluefish trolling remains good at the Lighthouse and along the south side. Watch your tides and fish the rips both day and night for striped bass at The Elbow, Submarine buoy and the Lighthouse.

Capt. Larry Keller of the **Jean Three** has been bluefishing mostly this past week off The Point.

Johnny Kronuck's Tackle Shop says the surfishing still stinks. The storm this past week did not seem to change anything. The weekends sees some of the sharpshooters out at night picking up a few fish. Day or night these bass must be worked for using either bait or lures.

PROMISED LAND

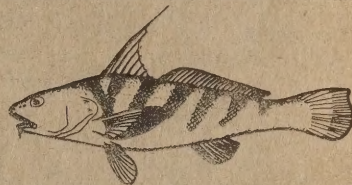
Art Brand at the **Promised Land Fishing Station** reports excellent porgy fishing all over but Hick's Island, buoy 3 and the south end of Tobacco Lot has produced at least 1/2

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Alan Flynn, Lake Grove, with a 57 lb. codfish he took at Coxes Ledge aboard Capt. Paul Forsberg's Viking Star.

bushel per man. Try using clams or squid. Small blues are working on top so watch for the birds and then drift to the school and cast into them. Fair fluke fishing in the rips off Cartwright. A few weaks are still around.

SAG HARBOR

Weakfish are the big thing said Helen Jacobsen of Noyac Marina. On Friday, Helen went out with her mother, father and son and fished off Short Beach. Using a hi-lo rig with squid they had a total of 49 weaks along with some porgies. Saturday with all that wind saw Alvin Shuler and Mr. & Mrs. Wilson of the Bronx brought in 50 porgies and 15 weaks. All were caught on squid bait off the

Monastery. On Sunday three members of the Jim Flynn Sportsmen Club in Hempstead brought in over 100 weaks and a few porgies. Again squid was the bait and the Monastery and Short Beach was the place.

SHINNECOCK

Altenkirch's Tackle said Saturday was a wash-out but Sunday saw trollers about 5 or 6 miles out of The Inlet picking up 35 to 40 pound tuna. Close in shore the trollers were catching blues and bass on the east side of the inlet. These same fish worked into the beaches where the surfmen had a whack at them. Fluke fishing has been spotty in Shinnecock Bay. Snappers are being caught everywhere.

The Capt. Clark and Capt. Clark II are doing terrific on both porgies and weakfish. Micky Altenkirch's sister-in-law said Thursday on Capt. Clark Belows Jr. boat the Capt. Clark and she said there were over 150 weaks caught along with loads of porgies.

HAMPTON BAYS

Frank Muller at Frank's Fishing Station said the fluke fishing was spotty due to the high winds on Saturday. The slack was taken up by flounder. Anchoring near the Ponaquogue Bridge and fishing with worms produced many flounders. Quite a few of them went to 1½ lbs.

MORICHES BAY

Nancy Skidmore at Skidmore's Fishing Station said their boats are coming in with 6 to 10 fluke per boat. Fishing the incoming tide in the old and new cuts with squid and killies are best. Quite a few boats have gotten 2 or 3 dozen nice sized flounders fishing The Hole off buoy 34 with blood worms. Crabbing is going great in the creeks. Snappers are being caught off the town docks on lures or spearing.

Dick Asigian of Dick's Tackle Box said the weakfish are back and go from 3 to 5 lbs. Salty Dogs and white bucktails have caught 10 to 12 fish per



It takes two hands to handle a whopper—petite Kathy Sheridan, of Manhattan, holds her pool-winning 16 lb. bluefish caught aboard the Hel-Cat while fishing in the Race.

boat. Fluke fishing has been generally good all around but try the new cut and buoy on any morning tide using spearing and squid. Striped bass fishing from the beach has been pretty productive by those who are using clam bellies for both bait and chum. The early morning hours from midnight on have been best. Bluefishing has slowed down.

MASTIC BEACH

Ronnie Keenan at Keenan's Fishing Station reports plenty of crabs. They are "out of sight." Weakfish of 2 to 3 lbs. have made a strong comeback. Fish for them at buoys 20 and 21 with Salty Dog lures. In the same area are small blues of 1½ to 2 lbs. taking Hopkins. Lots of fluke around but the grass makes fishing difficult.

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WEST SAYVILLE

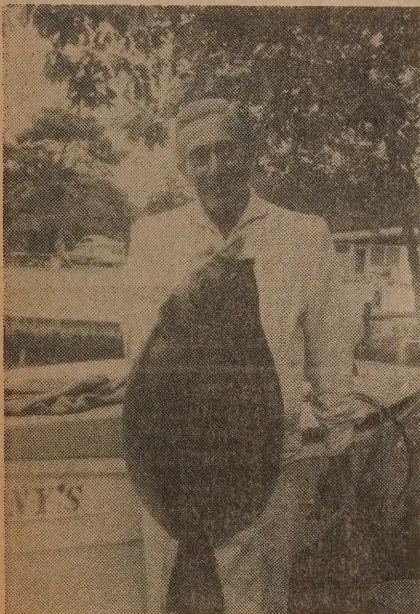
Dennis Masterson of **South Bay Fishing Station** said no fantastic catches but a large variety of fishing. Blue claw crabs are abundant in the Connetquot River and are large. Weakfish are the dominant fish and are east of the station from Sayville to Blue Point about 2 miles or better off-shore in 8 to 11 feet of water. Try squid right on the bottom. Drifting for fluke in the East Channel just off of La Salle Academy is best. Some small hump-back porgies and a few big kings are coming in around buoys 4 & 5.

Janet from **Young's Fishing Station** in Sayville said that on the rainy Wednesday Mr. & Mrs. Walter Kozuch with their son, Robert, caught 23 weakfish in 3 hours. These weaks were 2-3 lbs. and were caught east of buoy 30 on squid. Porgies are very good and are up to 2½ lbs. in size. Clam chum and squid are best. Fluke of a nice size are near buoy 4 and 5.

CAPTREE

Capt. George Roman of the **Captree Queen** says that he has been catching quite a few fluke from the Inlet to just about Ocean Beach. Saturday saw a drop off due to the high winds but Capt. Roman said it picked up on Sunday.

Carl Bauer of the **Capt. Whittaker** said they had decent fluke fishing during the week. High winds on Saturday put a crimp in the fluke fishing over the weekend making it only fair. The pool fish was 7 lbs. on Saturday.



Tony Somma of 1507 Lincoln Ave., Bohemia, caught this 12 lb. 2 oz. fluke in Shinnecock Bay between Tony's Fishing Station & buoy 21. bait was killie and squid.

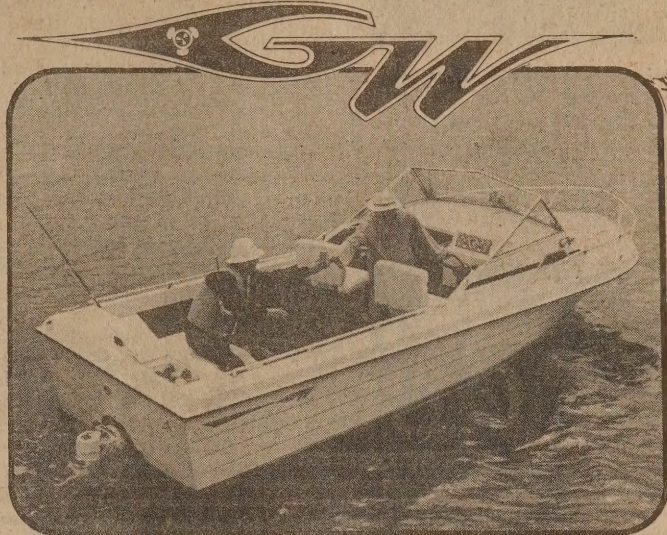


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Mick Derrico and mate Vincent Vinivocci with the 48 lb. 12 oz. white marlin they took in 140 feet of water southeast of Fire Island Inlet on a red and white feather. The fish was the first white marlin to be weighed in at Augie's Bait & Tackle this season.

WANTAGH

Frank at Causeway Bait & Tackle reports snappers by the thousands are all over. Crabs are fair. Fluke fishing is very good in the channels. Anchor and a moving tide and chum with bunker and use any of the regular fluke baits such as a squid, killies or spearing. Snapper blues of 1-1 1/2 lbs. are decent

at night. Weakfish at night is also most productive.

LINDENHURST

Duke's Tackle Shop reports that on Sunday the bluefish chummers started to get bluefish again. About 8 miles southeast of the Inlet there were blues taken in the 8-12 lb. range. A 7-year-old boy, whose name Duke lost, caught a 12 3/4 lb. fluke on his father's boat the Bellybopper. Crabs are excellent throughout most of the area especially by the Captree Bridge. Snappers are strong all over. Striped bass fishing from the beach has been a slow pick all over with mostly small fish being caught. You can only pound the beach and hope.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait & Tackle reports a minor slowdown in tuna fishing. They are southwest of the Inlet in 90-110 feet of water. A 1/2 dozen per boat in the 10-12 lb. range can still be had. Shark fishing is spotty. Fishing in 80 to 105 feet of water sees the blues harassing the shark fishermen. Going to 160 feet or so gets rid of the blues but might be too deep for good shark fishing. Trollers are picking bluefish in 60 feet of water along with a few bonito of 2 or 3 lbs. At the dock there are plenty of crabs in the early morning and evening. Snappers are also there and are more prevalent at high tide. Some fluke are still being picked

up in Snakehill and Dickerson Channels. A few kingfish and sea bass have also been caught there.

AMITYVILLE

George Comb's Bait & Tackle said there is great snapper fishing and they are getting bigger. Great crabbing is available at the town beaches and on the flats offshore. Good weakfishing using a 2B Hopkins at the East-West Channel off the Copiague Hole. Fluking remains good in the State Channel and at the Wantagh bridges. Blue-fishing took a downturn this past week.

SEAFORD

Del's Fishing Station reports that William and Robert Nemecek had two fluke up to two pounds just past the first bridge drifting spearing and squid. Crabbing has taken over as the crabs are throughout the area.

Lon Wausser Jr. at Wausser's Tackle Shop said the blues and tuna dropped off this past week. Bluefishing is best at night. Every morning about dawn there have been bass and blues caught on popping plugs at Democrat Point. Weakfish are taking squid and sandworms as well as Hopkins and Lupo shrimp at the third bridge, the entrance to Zach's Bay and the State Channel by the Amity Cut. Fluke fishing has picked up said Lon. Dave Anderson had 32 of them by the green house in Goose Creek using squid and spearing. Lots of snappers particularly at Seaman's Neck Park.

Dave Pigott of the Lucky Strike III had 22 blues of 4 to 8 lbs. on Sunday. Dave took his 6 fares about 5 miles out of Jones Inlet.

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Tony Fiorito of Bronx with his catch, "The ones that didn't get away," taken on July 20th aboard Captain Richie Abram's Sea Star from the Captree Boat Basin. The bluefish weighed 14 3/4 lb. and 12 lb. What wonderful eating!! Thanks to Elizabeth Fiorito, Bronx, N.Y.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

(Fishing photos must be sharp, clear, and black-white. We cannot use color prints due to printing problems, so please do not send them. Address photos to: FISHING REPORT, The Long Island Fisherman, P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.)

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** reports very good bluefishing Sunday, fish 3-7 lbs. Also a few bonito and a 9 lb. tuna during the week, also a few outsized blues. Even with the wind, Saturday saw 8-12 blues per man taken. All told, it was a good weekend.

Capt. "Spider" Schmidt of the **Aloma II** reports very good bluefishing Sunday, fish 7-15 lbs. fishing S. of Cholera. Fish are now hitting better, that is, taking the hook deeper, whereas before a lot were lightly lip hooked.

Capt. Al Lindroth of **Capt. Al** had good bluefishing on the weekend, fish 5-7 lbs.

The **Capt. Jack VI** is doing a fair job on fluke, fishing the inlet and outside. The infamous G. Korn, Merrick c.p. a., was aboard, fishing for his dinner again on Friday. Korn wore his new Topsider sneakers (sky-blue) and was the hit of the boat, as he demonstrated his technique of unhooking fluke with his feet.

Capt. Harris' **Snapshot IV** on Tuesday and Wednesday had blues and tuna at the pipeline, 150° on the 2038 line.

The **Dock One** over the weekend had good blues at Cholera, along with some tuna and bonito even with the rough seas, in 80' of water off the J.I. tower at the outfall pipe.

Roy at **Mako Marina** reports few private boats went out Saturday or Sunday, but a few did sail from the Tin Can Grounds and hit the porgies very well. The few boats that went for foot-balls came back with a fish each.

Capt. Jim V has been doing well nite bass chumming, with fish to 20 lbs.

POINT LOOKOUT

Brand X running open day and night, doing good on blues days S. of Cholera and at night, very good on blues at the pipeline.

Marilyn at **Ed's Fishing Station** says the fluking was very good on Sunday. The Kozuck brothers had 19 nice fish in the flats and 11 were taken by an old timer and his grandson. All along Reynolds Channel for fluke, guys. Flounders still in Swift Creek (in pockets). Sunday early A.M. private boats going offshore for tuna saw several per boat taken 150° out of Jones Inlet in 80' water.

The **Angler II** had a slow week, but had a great weekend. Saturday Capt. Artie White hit big slammer at Cholera & Sunday was into 3-5 lb. class blues by the ton. Also, tuna and bonito were taken as bonuses.

ISLAND PARK

The **Commodore** reports good fluking off the Rockaways & Riis Park, 10-12 fish per man.

Charlie at **Beckman's Tackle Shop** reports fluke a bit smaller and fewer than previous, but still worth going for. Snappers and crabs are excellent. Few blues close in for trollers, but lots for offshore chummers.

LONG BEACH

Ralph, owner and operator of the new **B.J.'s Bait & Tackle** tells of schoolie bass at the jetties on Atom poppers and swimmers in the dawn hours. Good fluking in Reynolds Channel and Atlantic Beach. Plenty of snappers.

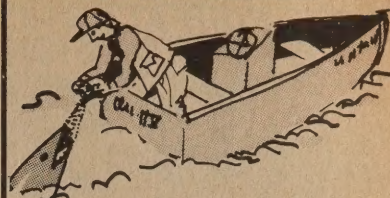
ATLANTIC BEACH

Leon at **Henning's Fishing Station** says there were fluke over the weekend for those who were persistent and fished the C.G. Station and the mouth of the inlet. These were the hot spots. Also, some fluke spread throughout Reynolds Channel. Snappers are all over the place as are tinker mackerel. Most offshore activity was weathered out. The N.C. Buoy, Seabright & Tin Can grounds were kind to blue trollers. On Monday A.M., the Four



John Bies & Duke Ferarri, hold 3 bass caught 8-6-74 on a night charter aboard Capt. Frank Braddick's "Hurry Up" out of Montauk. These fish, largest 41 lbs. fell for a big Stan Gibbs swimming plug. Capt. Braddick also sells these plugs in his Huntington Sta. tackle shop. Free advice available as to method of fishing these plugs via a visit to Frank.

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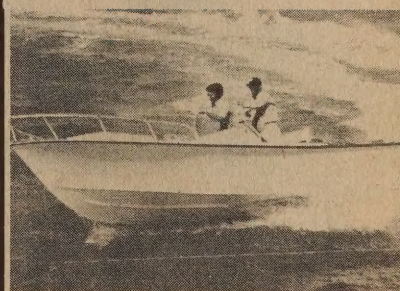
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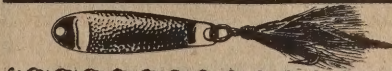
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being enforced with stiff
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NO CHARGE TACKLE / BAIT • JOSEPH I & II
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7 P.M.

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• STRIPER FISHING • *Cindy II*
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FROM THWAITES MARINA, CITY ISLAND

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BAIT - TACKLE - RESTAURANT
Radiophones - Radar - Depth Recorder
Tel. (212) 885-1741 Capt. Sal
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BLACKS & PORGIES
DAILY 7:30 A.M.
FROM CITY ISLAND

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CITY ISLAND'S

NEW APACHE

BAIT • TACKLE • RESTAURANT
LADIES ACCOMMODATIONS

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First Traffic Light at Jack's Bait & Tackle

Daughters had 2 footballs and a Spanish mackerel in the box, in 80' water, S.E. of the inlet. Some school bass at the bridge.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Pilot II's Capt. Tom is having very good porgy catches off Jersey and the Rockaways and is doing well on blues at nite.

Capt. John of the *Apache III* is hitting the blues, 5-6 lb. fish very well off Ambrose.

Amberjack IV — Capt. Fred Ardolino reports fair-good bluefishing, day & nite. Sunday nite Fred had fish at Lightship Ridge & Cholera, 4-6 lbs.

Freddie at *Mike's Tackle Shop* reports big blues between the N.C. Buoy and areas south, fish 6-15 lbs. chummed by the fleet, nites. Days they are working off Seabright, fish 1½-3 lbs. The Tin Can Grounds are prime now for bass with clam bellies for the private boats. Fluke good and porgies off Jersey shore. Weak in Princess Bay on sandworms.

Vinnie at *Salvo's Bait & Tackle* tells us bass has slowed, tho still at the Verrazano Bridge, using clam and worms on the bottom. Try the 69 St. Pier for bass too. They are in small pockets now. Mixed bags of blues, weaks and bass at Nortons Point on trolled tubes and umbrella rigs. 4-5 lb. weaks are not unusual. Try Hoffman Island. The seawall between Korvettes & 59 St. is hot for porgies and snappers.

JAMAICA BAY

John at *Cross Bay Rod & Gun* on Cross Bay Blvd. reports that the bay is loaded with snappers at the North Channel Bridge, South Channel Bridge & J.F.K. Airport. Loads of nice blue claw crabs at North Channel Bridge in particular and at night, 17' long scoop nets are used with deadly efficiency on the bridge. John has these nets and extension handles. A few weaks at Floyd Bennet, with worms on the bottom. Fluke at the inlet. Some porgies off Beach Channel Dr.

STATEN ISLAND

Lennie at *Santo's* reports big blues on cut bait from dusk thru dawn for beach fishermen on South Beach & Bergen Ave. storm sewer, but not it's hit and miss (or hot and cold).

You can troll worms for bass between Bergen Ave. & Hoffman Island. Try Great Kills Pk., beach side for small blues, and the rock jetty for fluke and sand porgies. Lafayettes on worms. Crabs in Great Kills Harbor very good. Snappers too.

Annadale-Princess Bay has 15" snappers taking small plugs and tins. Fluke at the jetties and some weaks. Buoy 4 (Annadale) for weaks, 6-15 per boat. The trick is just enough lead to BOUNCE (not drag) bottom on worms.

Point Lookout Island Park

Angler II

POINT LOOKOUT MARINA



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FREE PARKING FREE ICE

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BLUES • BLUES DAILY 7AM

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DAILY EXC. MON.

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85 FT. OPEN BOAT

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AFTERNOONS (1 PM-5 PM)
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\$1. Refund If No Blues Caught

Capt. Don Says "Blues Bite Best At Sunrise Before You Go To Work"

BLUES \$8 DAILY MON. — FRI. (8 AM-12 NOON)
\$1. Refund If No Blues Caught

BLUES Bottom \$8 DAILY MON. — FRI. (1 PM-5 PM)
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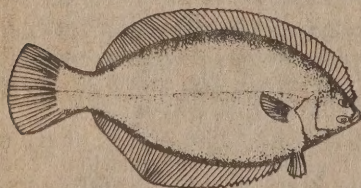
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CHARTER BOATS • OPEN BOATS

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

(Fishing photos must be sharp, clear,
and black-white. We cannot use
color prints due to printing problems,
so please do not send them.
Address photos to: FISHING REPORT,
The Long Island Fisherman,
P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y.
11729.)

GREENPORT

Art White's Bait Shop reports big
blues of 6-12 lbs. are being caught in
the Plum Gut. Some blues have gone
as high as 18 lbs. Smaller blues of 2-3
lbs. are near the ruins near Gardiners
Island. These fish have been surfacing
so watch for the birds. Porgies are
being taken at the mouth of Deering
Harbor and off the Greenport Jetty.
Striped bass fishing is best at night
either in the Plum Gut jigging or trol-
ling. Surfishing at night from the
beaches of East Marion and Greenport
is best with swimmers or poppers.
These bass go from 12 to 20 pounds.

Capt. Bill Jensen of the open boat
Wilheric has been loading up on
porgies every day. The Green Hills
area off Gardiners Island is the best
spot.

ORIENT POINT

Peter Liblien at Port of Egypt Fish-
ing Station reports very good porgy
fishing at South Ferry, buoys 16 & 17.
A few weaks were caught at The Brick
north and south of buoy 16 on squid.
The Plum Gut gave up big blues to rig-
ged bunker or mackerel. Mostly the
outgoing tide produced best but it is
picking up on the incoming. Orient
station will open the first weekend
after Labor Day.

NEW SUFFOLK

Phil at Capt. Marty's Fishing Station
said that after the blow on Saturday
the fishing was all west of Robins Is-
land. at Roses Grove. Weaks of 1 1/2 to
2 lbs. were taken on hi-lo rig with
worms and squid. Porgies of 3/4 lb.
and up taking worms and clams.



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Fast, Fully Equipped 23'

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SPORT or BOTTOM FISHING
SMALL CHARTERS ARRANGED
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Home Port Northport
Capt. Pete Novellino (516) FO 8-7669



Rod McDonald of Huntington took this 43 pound striped bass on a live bunker at Coopers Bluff in Cold Spring Harbor. Photo courtesy of Four Winds Bait & Tackle.

JAMESPORT

Warren's Tackle Shop in Aquebogue reports good porgy and weak fishing on Saturday by boats that sat on the west side of Robins Island out of the wind. Weak to 2 lbs. and porgies from 1/2 lb. on up were caught on worms and clams. Sunday saw an increase in catches. Snappers starting to show up. Spotty blues of 1 1/2 to 2 lbs. throughout the bay. Good bluefish trolling for blues off Mattituck Inlet. Casting from the beach is productive in the early morning and evening. For striped bass info. stop by and ask Warren himself.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station said they are getting porgies and weaks off the jetties and along the beaches from Miller Place to Rocky Point. Bluefish trolling is picking up outside of the harbor. Some blues are being taken from the beach using bunker. Fluke are both inside and outside of the inlet and are taking squid and killies on a moving tide. They run 2 lbs. and better with about half of them throwbacks.

PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. John Fisher of the Betty W said the night bluefishing is good with day bluefishing improving. Bluefish taken at night have all run big. Enny Gregorio had a 14 lb. blue which was the biggest of the week. Bottom fishing is good with a strong showing of porgies and blacks. The Betty W is swinging over to bottom fishing

during the day and blues at night.

Bobby at Plaza Sports said bluefish trolling is starting to pick up outside the harbor. Night and early morning is best. Bunker fishing is also productive for these either inside or outside. Small 2-3-lb. blues have been taken by casters both from the beach or boat. Snappers are becoming more plentiful.

SMITHTOWN BAY

Tim Fleming at Smithtown Sports Shop said if you can catch bunker and rig them with two hooks the blues go crazy for them. They are about 6 miles off Crane's Neck. Tim said to have plenty of bunker as they hit your rig and take the bunker and don't get hooked. Trollers can also get them but must be patient as only one fish an hour can be considered about normal. The mouth of the Nissequogue River saw casters throwing all kinds of poppers at the blues Sunday. Many of these 2-3-lb. blues were caught.

NORTHPORT

Ted at Bowman's Sporting Goods says there are plenty of blues and stripers out in the bay and sound. It is just a big grab bag. Fresh caught bunker, sliced in half, because it has more odor, has been the best thing for these blues and stripers. Timewise: early morning or evening seems best.

HUNTINGTON

Capt. Don Constantin of the Ever-Ready Fleet said the middle of last week started out slow. Beginning on Friday and continuing through the weekend the bluefishing picked up and all four runs of the fleet had plenty of blues.

George Valentine at Four Winds Tackle says the bluefishing has been fantastic since Friday. They are being caught in Huntington and Lloyd Harbors on bunker mostly but some have taken cast plugs. Striped bass fishing has slowed somewhat with just a few taken by worm trollers off Marshall Field. The most consistent bass fishing has been by the clam chummers at Eatons Neck. Further offshore at buoy 11B wire lining for bluefish with Umbrella rigs or tubes has picked up. Snappers are picking up.

GLEN COVE

Blues, blues, blues and more blues said John at Glen Cove Sports. Prybil Sluiceway has snappers on the sound or pond side depending on the tide. They are taking Kastmasters or small tins. Snapper blues of 2 lbs. are bouncing along the beaches. These are taking any silver popping plug. Some big blues to 14 lbs. hit the beach early Sunday morning and the trollers hit them later using Sekora rad double tubes.

PORT WASHINGTON

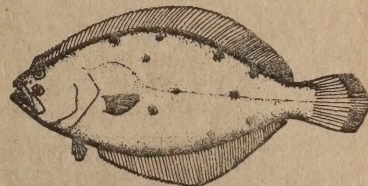
Moreland's Bait & Tackle reports bluefish being caught at the Throggs Neck Bridge using bunker or trolling tubes. Manhasset Bay saw the blues move in over the weekend. They are being taken trolled or with butterfish. Worm trolling for bass at night is still good. Porgies are still around.

CITY ISLAND

Rosenberg's Boathouse said the blues have been popping up all over Sands Point one time and the bridge the next. Porgies are available locally but are sometimes chased by bluefish. Snappers are all over and getting big. Small bass at Harts Island or off Sands Point on a spinner worm rig.

Jack's Bait & Tackle said the bluefish are taking cut bait between the Whitestone and Throggs Neck Bridges. The striped bass seem to be schooling around Harts Island and are addicted to a small spinner and worm combo.

The openboats, North Star, New Apache and the Theresa L III are all coming in loaded with porgies. Blackfish are also being caught in good quantities on fiddler crabs.



NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

SANDY HOOK

Julian's says the weakfishing is good at Chapel Hill Channel and Flynn's Knoll drifting sandworms. Blues are spotty. Some days it's excellent off the Highlands Bridge—chumming and jigging. A few stripers have been caught along the beaches on Gibbs Pencil poppers. Joe Estock and party had 30 bass on worms off the Golf Ball.

Chum Box North reports a few bass on live bunker & live eels. The Danny popper is producing scattered bluefish.

SEA BRIGHT

Giglio's tells of stripers to 27 pounds on worms at the Trade Winds and right behind his store. Most catches are on sandworms but a few on plugs like the Stan Gibbs Pencil popper. The river is loaded with snappers and there are lots of fluke in the bay.

LONG BRANCH

Monmouth Tackle boasts of plenty of stripers, some up to 30 lbs. on popping plugs all along the beach. Snappers are abundant in the river and crabbing is excellent.

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ALL POSSIBLE ELECTRONICS—112' ALL STEEL FISHING YACHT
SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS—LADIES ACCOMMODATIONS
FULL RESTAURANT—BAIT—TACKLE AVAILABLE
TILE FISHING TRIPS TO HUDSON CANYON

Fri. Night, Sept. 27, Sailing 9PM—Fri. Night, Oct. 4, Sailing 9PM Reservations Required

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Every Day 7AM
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NITE BLUES

Every Nite
7 PM
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40 TWIN DIESEL SPORTFISHERMAN
FULL ELECTRONICS



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THREE TRIPS DAILY

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Pier III
Capt. John

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TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
8/15 THURSDAY	6:15	6:37	7:39	7:59	9:42	10:03	9:42	10:03
8/16 FRIDAY	7:11	7:29	8:33	8:55	10:43	11:04	10:36	10:56
8/17 SATURDAY	8:02	8:20	9:24	9:47	11:38	11:58	11:27	11:47
8/18 SUNDAY	8:51	9:08	10:14	10:39	-	12:28	-	12:16
8/19 MONDAY	9:40	9:56	11:06	11:30	12:50	1:17	12:38	1:05
8/20 TUESDAY	10:30	10:47	11:56	-	1:40	2:06	1:28	1:52
8/21 WEDNESDAY	11:20	11:37	12:23	12:51	2:30	2:53	2:16	2:43
8/22 THURSDAY	-	12:11	1:16	1:45	3:22	3:49	3:07	3:33

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	-0	50
Shinnecock Bay	+1	25
East Quogue	+2	45
Shinnecock Canal	+1	18
Indian Reservation	+3	05
MORICHES INLET	-0	56
Smith's Point	+3	28
Harts Cove	+1	30
Potunck Point	+3	35
Mastic Beach	+3	28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	-0	38
(Inlet Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	-0	38
Coast Guard Station	-0	19
Fire Island Light	+0	47
GREAT SOUTH BAY		
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3	39
Heckscher State Park	+3	20
Bay Shore	+2	23
Babylon	+2	12
Amityville	+2	21
JONES INLET	-0	19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0	25
Zachs Bay	+1	25
Seaford Harbor	+2	05
Freeport Creek	+0	34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	-0	06
Long Beach Bridge	+0	19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0	00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0	38
JFK Airport	+0	26
STATEN ISLAND	+0	27
MANASQUAN	-0	12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0	27
Connecticut River	+1	10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0	12
Greenport	+1	04
Southold	+1	43
New Suffolk	+2	26
South Jamesport	+2	32
Shinnecock Canal	+2	33
Noyack Bay	+2	05
Sag Harbor	+0	59
Gardiners Bay	+0	21
Promised Land (Napeague)	-0	14
Fort Pond Bay	-0	29
Montauk Inlet	-0	25
Montauk Point	-1	13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	-0	10
Execution Light	-0	06
Manhasset Bay	-0	01
Hempstead Harbor	-0	11
City Island	-0	03
Rye Beach	-0	28

PHASES OF THE MOON

8-17	8-24	8-3	8-11
			
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0	08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0	08
Bayville Bridge	+0	13
Eatons Neck Point	+0	03
Northport Bay	+0	03
Norwalk Islands	+0	10
Smithtown Bay	-0	03
Cranes Neck Point	+0	05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0	03
New Haven Harbor	+0	08
Mount Sinai Harbor	-0	08
Herod Point	-0	07
Mattituck Inlet	+0	19
Horton Point	-0	20
Truman Beach	-0	42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet -0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". -0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

NEW HAVEN

Good striped fishing at the mouth of the Houseatonic River. Big blues at Savin Rock with peak fishing at low tide. Action is on bait and lures. Porgies at the usual spots, snappers in the river.

WESTHAVEN

Good surf action at the Sand Bar and near Chick's. Blues surfacing more and more through the area. Schoolies are mixed in.

MILLFORD

Blues at the Middle Ground taken

on surge tubes, jigs, and spoons. Bunker chunks pay off near shore. Live eels are taking stripers near Charles Island and Millford Point. School bass move through the area. Weaks are hitting trolled tubes intended for bass and blues.

STRATFORD

Bluefish and school bass at the river mouth. Fluke to 4 lbs. near the Gon Club. Snappers in the river, big blues off bond's park. Most action on bunker.

BRIDGEPORT

Nightime action on the west side of Pennfield Reef and at Middleground. Bluefish of course. Bass are slow. Snappers are around St. Mary's.

NORWALK

Blues on the surface around Tavern Island, bass on the outside, snappers everywhere. Chunk baits pay off

around the Norwalk Islands. Blues are anywhere from 4-12 lbs. Bass are slow.

ROWAYTON

Bluefish action is on bait. Top water action is slow. Schoolies are active in area waters, big fish are missing. Snappers all over.

STAMFORD

Bluefish on bunker and artificials of Cummings. Schoolie bass are active. Snappers everywhere. Plenty of porgies and blackfish. Blues of Hallowsen Park on poppers and swimming plugs. Bass are fair at the Stamford Cows.

WESTFORD

Bluefish action on plugs at Black-rock Harbor and at St. Mary's. Harbor blues and snappers everywhere. Porgies of Sherwood Island and Cockenoe.

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Blacks are hitting well.

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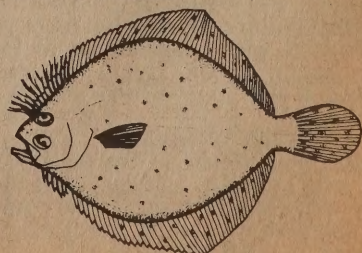
MAMARONECK
Porgies are excellent. Blue fisher-
men are doing well inside the harbor.
Bass are slow.

RYE
Striper fishing picking up. Blues on
the surface. Porgies great, blacks still
around.

NEW ROCHELLE
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Casino. Fewer weaks being taken,
blacks doing well.



Paul Bucco, age 11, left, and Jim
Allen, 12, right, with bluefish they
caught in the surf at Montauk. Each
of the boys caught 3 fish between 7
and 10 pounds.



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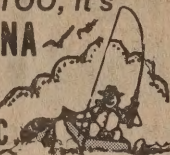
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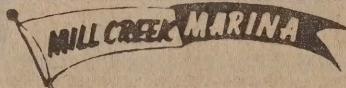
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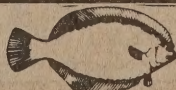
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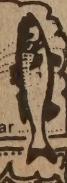
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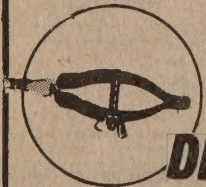
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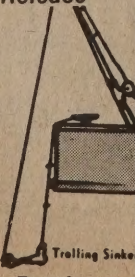
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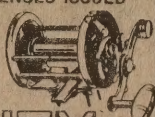
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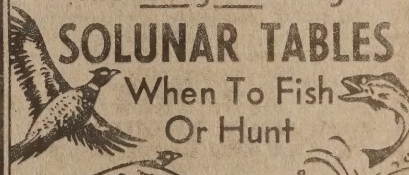
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The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
 When To Fish Or Hunt


The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

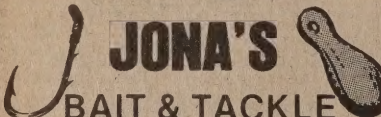
Thurs.	2:40	9:25	3:15	9:55
Fri.	3:35	10:20	4:10	10:50
Sat.	4:30	11:10	5:05	11:40
Sun.	5:20	-	5:55	12:10
Mon.	6:20	12:35	6:50	1:20
Tues.	7:35	1:40	7:50	2:05
Weds.	8:20	2:35	8:45	3:00
Thurs.	9:15	3:30	9:40	3:55

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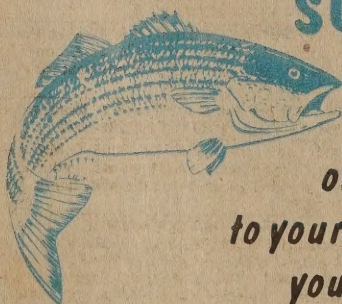
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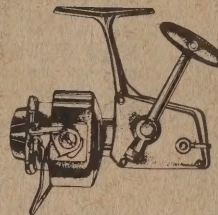
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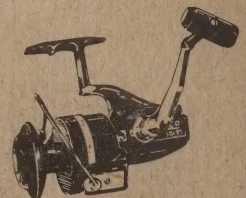
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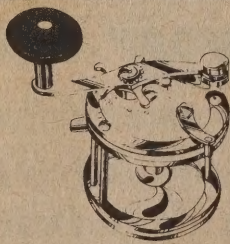
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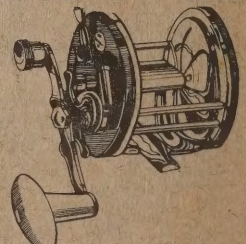
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